

North Carolina Republican House Caucus. Among many other legislative accomplishments, his initiatives in office secured around \$400 million in the state budget for Cumberland County.

Prior to his career in public service, Representative Szoka graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1976 with a bachelor's degree in Engineering. Upon graduation, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Infantry where he served as an Infantry Officer for over 20 years before retiring from active duty as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1996. In retirement, he became a successful small business owner and is currently still employed as a mortgage lender.

Representative Szoka's legislative term will expire at the end of the year. Through his outstanding service and leadership in the military and the North Carolina House of Representatives, he has exhibited the highest level of commitment to serving others. I know I speak for all in our community in wishing him well as he begins the next chapter of his life.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Representative John Szoka for his career of commendable servitude to his community.

HONORING MARSEY RANDALL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 2, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a hero, Marsey Randall. Randall has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to achieve success. Marsey Randall, a Jackson, MS, native, came from a military family. She was reared up in Pearl, MS, and was a member of the very first Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC) class at Pearl High School in 1986.

Randall joined the Navy in 1990 and remained on active duty for four years. Her first duty station was in Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, serving in the Signalman rating, which later merged with Quartermaster, and ultimately to Boatswain's Mate. She served as a deck seaman on tugboats escorting ships in and out of port, and ferrying passengers, including distinguished visitors (VIPs). She then transferred to USNS Guadalupe (TAO 200), a West Coast underway replenishment oiler, and served out her enlistment there.

Seven years after her enlistment ended, she joined the Naval Reserves in October 2001, and was attached to the Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) Meridian and would often drill in Gulfport. Very interesting timing for sure. That was just a month after September 11, 2001. She was assigned to the Navy Expeditionary Logistics Support Group and then on extended deployment to the middle east. She spent the better part of three years (2006–2008) at Mohammed Al-Ahmad Kuwait Naval Base and U.S. Army Installation Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, which accommodates elements of the Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard, in addition to military personnel from the United Kingdom, Poland, Romania, Australia, and Canada. Randall received predeployment training at Naval Base Norfolk in Norfolk, VA, and at Fort Eustis in Newport News, VA.

Randall and other Battalion staff were trained in the use of weapons, driving tactical vehicles, first aid, small unit tactics, hand-to-hand combat, and the procedures and standards required of items and personnel re-entering the United States from overseas. That training earned her a certification as a Customs Border Clearance Agent.

When not deployed, Randall continued her formal education and earned a bachelor's degree in early childhood education and family planning in 2011 from Jackson State University. Even while she was in the Reserves, she continued educating young people. She began a twenty-year teaching career in California and completed it back in Mississippi. She also served as an independent contractor assisting elderly people with transportation and health needs.

Around that time, she began to think seriously about starting her own business. When the pandemic hit, the idea to open a Rage Room made perfect sense because it was needed—so much frustration and anguish, so many people needed to vent. Whether from unresolved anger, depression, anxiety, grief, or trauma, the Rage Room has become an outlet to express such pain by breaking objects in a room.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Marsey Randall for her service in the U.S. Navy and for being an exemplary citizen in the state of Mississippi.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. GLENN BLODGETT

HON. RONNY JACKSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 2, 2022

Mr. JACKSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Glenn Blodgett of Guthrie, Texas. Affectionately known as "Doc Blodgett," Dr. Blodgett was a skilled horseman and veterinarian whose passion for horses motivated him through an extensive career in the equine industry.

Dr. Blodgett began working at the Burnett Ranches, which included the legendary Four Sixes Ranch, in 1982, and continued to work until he passed away in November of 2022. Dr. Blodgett served as the ranch veterinarian and manager of the horse division for the Four Sixes Ranch for 40 years while also serving on the board of the American Association of Equine Practitioners. As the head of the horse division at the Four Sixes, Dr. Blodgett made the ranch an industry leader in equine embryo transfer and artificial insemination by consistently producing and developing some of the most highly recognized racing and western performance American Quarter Horses in the world. He dedicated his career and life to the betterment of horses and constantly sought to improve the practice of equine medicine.

Born in Spearman, Texas and raised in the Panhandle, Dr. Blodgett discovered his passion for equine medicine early in life which led him to complete his undergraduate degree at Oklahoma State University and his veterinary degree at Texas A&M University. He continued his educational advocacy and support of the Texas A&M School of Veterinary Medicine while mentoring young people and helping foster their passion for horses and veterinary careers.

Dr. Blodgett's years of service are reflected by his numerous positions and collected accolades. To name a few, Dr. Blodgett was appointed to the first Texas Horse Racing Commission in 1988; was named the Texas Veterinary Medical Association's equine practitioner of the year in 1990; became director of the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) in 1991; served as a vice chairman for the Texas Horse Racing Commission from 1993 to 1995; became director-at-large of the AQHA in 2011; became the 65th President of the AQHA in 2015; and was the recipient of the 2017 National Golden Spur Award which is the most prestigious honor given to a member of the livestock and ranching industries. Dr. Blodgett was also inducted into the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame in 2019 and the AQHA Hall of Fame in 2021.

Aside from his steadfast involvement in Texas racing, Dr. Blodgett was instrumental in the passing of parimutuel horse racing and pushed other legislative efforts which will be felt by the racing industry for generations to come. Dr. Blodgett was an industry leader and trailblazer; leaving some very large boots to fill. As his daughter described, Dr. Blodgett was "quiet, gentle, and patient" and "had a special love for all animals and had a way of communicating with them like no other."

Dr. Blodgett was laid to rest in Guthrie, Texas on November 26, 2022, surrounded by family and cherished friends. He will be truly missed by those who knew him and by the community he truly affected. He is survived by his wife of more than 50 years, Karen, their daughters, Buffie (Michael) and Brandie (Mike), and their five grandchildren, Catherine, Rebecca, Claire, Myla, and Maddox. A mentor and friend to many, I join his family, friends, and the people of the Panhandle in celebrating Dr. Blodgett's life and legacy.

HONORING COUNTY COMMISSIONER JERRY DAEKE FOR EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 2, 2022

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jerry Daeke for 8 years of service as Moore County Commissioner and a lifetime of public service to our community.

Prior to his role as a County Commissioner, Commissioner Daeke served in the Navy and spent 8 years as a town councilman in Southern Pines, North Carolina. He became Moore County's first independent fee appraiser for real estate in 1974 and served as an instructor in his field at Sandhills Community College. He currently chairs the Moore County Tax Equalization and Review Board and has been a member of this board for the past 16 years. Elected to hold Moore County's District V seat as a member of the Board of Commissioners in 2014 and 2018, Commissioner Daeke has been an essential source of property and real estate knowledge for his fellow commissioners. He also currently serves as a member of the Facilities Task Force Committee, the Transportation Advisory Board, and the Utilities Task Force among many other local leadership councils.